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ABSTRACT

This is the first in a new series of early estimates for public elementary and secondary education in the United States reported by the Center for Education Statistics (CES). Early estimates are key statistics reported early in the school year and include the numbers of students in membership, of teachers, and of high school graduates and total current expenditures for the operation of public elementary and secondary schools. These estimates are either preliminary actual counts for individual states, estimates derived by states for CES, or imputations developed by CES using a combination of state-specific and national data. (Author)

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Early Estimates

December 1987

Key Statistics for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: Early Estimates, School Year 1987-88

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This is the first in a new series of early estimates for public elementary and secondary education in the United States reported by the Center for Education Statistics (CES). Early estimates are key statistics reported early in the school year and include the numbers of students in membership, of teachers, and of high school graduates and total current expenditures for the operation of public elementary and secondary schools. These estimates are either preliminary actual counts for individual States, estimates derived by States for CES, or imputations developed by CES using a combination of State-specific and national data.

Highlights

- There were approximately 40.2 million students in the Nation's public elementary and secondary schools this fall (October 1987) compared with 39.8 million a year ago. Student membership has increased by nearly a million in the last 2 years.
- These students are being taught by an estimated 2,276,000 public school teachers.
- High school graduates of the Nation's public schools totaled an estimated 2,428,000 for the 1986-87 school year, and it is estimated that approximately 2,469,000 students will graduate in school year 1987-88.
- Total current expenditures for public elementary and secondary education in fiscal year 1987 are estimated to be 146.1 billion, and they are expected to rise to approximately $155.5 billion in fiscal year 1988.
- The cost of public education is estimated to be $3,867 per student for the 1987-88 school year.

The Early Estimate System

The primary source of basic statistical information about public elementary and secondary education is the Common Core of Data (CCD), a set of surveys collected annually by CES from State education agencies. These data are reported to CES in March, undergo CES and State editing, and are available for publication in September--a full year after the beginning of the school year. Fiscal data are reported a year later than the student and teacher data.

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Elementary and
Secondary Education
Statistics Division

The Early Estimates System is currently under development and is designed to allow CES to report selected key statistics early in the school year. Over the course of the next 3 years, CES will be examining and evaluating various methodologies to obtain and improve the Early Estimate System for public elementary and secondary education.

U.S. Department of Education
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Forty-nine States and the District of Columbia participated in the survey. Estimates reported here were provided to CES by State education agencies and represent the best information available to States at this early stage of the school year. They are, however, subject to revision.

Methodology

Early in November 1987, a survey form was sent to each State education agency requesting their cooperation and specifying when CES would collect the data by telephone. States were contacted during the week of November 9 and State estimates were received through December 15. Data collected by telephone were checked for reasonableness against prior years' data. Followup calls were made to resolve questions about the data.

The missing membership from Massachusetts was imputed based on the assumption that percentage growth in membership from 1986-87 to 1987-88 was equal to the percentage growth from 1985-86 to 1986-87.

Other missing values were imputed using ratios of the missing quantity to the student membership value. For example, the procedure for imputing number of teachers in the 1987-88 school year involved: (1) calculating the teacher-to-student ratio in the given State in 1986-87, (2) adjusting this ratio for changes at the national level from 1986-87 to 1987-88, and (3) multiplying the adjusted ratio by the 1987-88 student membership. Historically, the relationship between number of teachers and students has generally been stable, making it a suitable ratio to use in imputing the number of teachers. Equivalent procedures were used for imputing number of teachers, number of high school graduates, and current expenditures.

As a result of the imputation, the data in the following tables are presented in complete form. Some of the values are early actual counts, others are estimates developed by the States, and the remainder are imputed values developed by CES.

Definitions

Membership is the unduplicated count of students on the roll of the school or local education agency on the school day closest to October 1; students who withdrew from school have been removed from the count.

Current expenditures are funds for operating local public schools and include such items as salaries for school personnel, fixed charges, student transportation, school books and materials, and energy costs, but exclude capital outlay and interest on school debt.

Pupil/teacher ratio is the number of students divided by the number of teachers in a State. The number reported here represents an average across all levels. There is, however, variability across elementary and secondary grade levels and across programs such as special education, and gifted and talented.

Per pupil expenditure is the total current expenditure for public elementary and secondary education in a State divided by the student membership. The numbers reported here, based on membership, can be expected to be smaller than per pupil expenditures based on average daily attendance because the membership counts are generally larger than average daily attendance.

Acknowledgments

The author gratefully acknowledges the comments and suggestions of the reviewers, Will Myers of the National Education Association and Susan Hill, Donald Malec, and William Sonnenberg of the Center for Education Statistics.

Table 1.--Membership in public elementary and secondary schools, by State: Fall 1984 to fall 1987

State	Actual fall 1984	Actual fall 1985	Actual fall 1986	Estimated fall 1987
Total	39,295,210	39,508,625	39,837,459	*40,200,086
Alabama	712,586	730,460	733,735	**730,548
Alaska	104,599	107,345	107,973	**105,547
Arizona	530,062	548,252	534,538	567,160
Arkansas	432,668	433,410	437,438	**437,036
California	4,151,110	4,255,554	4,377,989	4,469,927
Colorado	545,427	550,642	558,415	**560,235
Connecticut	468,145	462,026	468,847	464,000
Delaware	91,767	92,901	94,410	**95,659
District of Columbia	87,397	87,092	85,612	87,710
Florida	1,524,107	1,562,283	1,607,320	**1,663,579
Georgia	1,062,315	1,079,594	1,096,425	1,159,463
Hawaii	163,860	164,169	164,640	**165,910
Idaho	208,080	208,669	208,391	212,364
Illinois	1,834,355	1,826,478	1,825,185	1,798,025
Indiana	972,659	966,106	966,780	965,215
Iowa	491,011	485,332	481,286	478,856
Kansas	405,347	410,229	416,091	421,091
Kentucky	644,421	643,833	642,778	**642,696
Louisiana	800,941	788,349	795,188	795,323
Maine	207,537	206,101	211,752	210,000
Maryland	673,840	671,560	675,747	680,071
Massachusetts	859,391	844,330	833,918	*823,634
Michigan	1,696,982	1,689,828	1,681,880	1,673,821
Minnesota	701,697	705,140	711,134	716,305
Mississippi	466,058	471,195	498,639	**505,550
Missouri	793,793	795,107	800,606	**802,060
Montana	154,412	153,869	153,327	153,915
Nebraska	265,599	265,819	267,139	268,103
Nevada	151,633	154,948	161,239	165,054
New Hampshire	158,614	160,974	163,717	164,170
New Jersey	1,129,223	1,116,194	1,107,467	1,105,564
New Mexico	272,478	277,551	281,943	**287,238
New York	2,645,811	2,621,378	2,607,719	2,593,100
North Carolina	1,088,724	1,086,165	1,085,248	1,084,800
North Dakota	118,711	118,570	118,703	**118,474
Ohio	1,805,440	1,793,965	1,793,508	1,789,549
Oklahoma	589,690	592,327	593,183	598,679
Oregon	446,884	447,527	449,307	**455,895
Pennsylvania	1,701,880	1,683,221	1,674,161	1,656,380
Rhode Island	134,034	133,442	134,126	**134,064
South Carolina	602,718	606,643	611,629	614,923
South Dakota	123,314	124,291	125,458	**126,450
Tennessee	817,212	813,753	818,073	819,322
Texas	3,040,305	3,131,705	3,209,515	3,350,661
Utah	390,141	403,395	415,994	418,691
Vermont	90,089	90,157	92,112	93,500
Virginia	965,222	968,104	975,135	**979,252
Washington	741,177	749,706	761,428	775,826
West Virginia	362,941	357,923	351,837	**344,236
Wisconsin	767,542	768,234	767,819	772,000
Wyoming	101,261	102,779	100,955	**98,455

* Imputed by the Center for Education Statistics (CES).

** Actual fall 1987 count.

Note: All fall 1987 numbers are State estimates unless otherwise indicated by single or double asterisks. Estimates are reported as of December 1987.

Table 2.--Number of teachers in public elementary and secondary education by State: School years 1984-85 to 1987-88

State	Actual 1984-85	Actual 1985-86	Actual 1986-87	Estimated 1987-88
Total	2,168,298	2,206,684	*2,243,370	*2,276,367
Alabama	36,647	36,138	36,971	37,446
Alaska	6,127	6,814	6,448	6,422
Arizona	26,900	27,935	29,104	30,992
Arkansas	23,985	24,767	24,944	30,000
California	178,310	184,151	190,484	*195,631
Colorado	28,824	29,894	30,704	31,000
Connecticut	32,618	32,903	34,252	34,700
Delaware	5,577	5,745	5,883	5,952
District of Columbia	5,889	6,137	5,984	6,400
Florida	86,264	88,973	91,969	*95,749
Georgia	56,294	57,374	57,881	59,415
Hawaii	7,078	7,276	7,291	**7,684
Idaho	10,147	10,255	10,234	10,572
Illinois	102,013	102,657	104,609	101,749
Indiana	51,308	51,976	52,896	53,550
Iowa	31,882	31,770	30,958	30,932
Kansas	26,331	26,686	27,064	27,389
Kentucky	32,850	33,506	34,507	**35,280
Louisiana	42,180	42,609	42,929	*43,190
Maine	13,261	14,226	13,685	13,500
Maryland	38,030	38,433	39,491	39,831
Massachusetts	56,504	56,845	58,066	*57,688
Michigan	81,185	82,193	83,130	*83,220
Minnesota	40,108	41,314	40,957	41,770
Mississippi	25,388	26,102	26,219	26,541
Missouri	47,366	48,170	48,902	49,000
Montana	9,597	9,705	9,818	*9,914
Nebraska	17,656	17,687	17,748	17,656
Nevada	7,496	7,751	7,908	8,122
New Hampshire	10,065	10,104	10,300	10,500
New Jersey	73,774	74,236	75,558	76,815
New Mexico	14,538	14,781	14,876	14,985
New York	163,044	165,573	168,940	175,000
North Carolina	56,084	57,638	58,103	58,500
North Dakota	7,794	7,796	7,779	6,833
Ohio	98,061	98,264	98,894	98,870
Oklahoma	34,894	35,752	35,041	35,229
Oregon	24,444	24,605	24,615	**24,912
Pennsylvania	101,484	101,665	102,993	102,900
Rhode Island	8,752	8,844	8,916	**8,935
South Carolina	33,764	34,645	35,349	35,200
South Dakota	8,579	8,340	8,031	**8,172
Tennessee	39,636	40,023	41,103	41,300
Texas	172,865	181,051	185,310	190,000
Utah	16,169	17,126	17,752	17,500
Vermont	6,327	6,397	--	*6,532
Virginia	57,498	57,339	58,141	58,750
Washington	35,706	36,202	37,065	37,751
West Virginia	22,732	22,733	22,931	22,589
Wisconsin	47,082	46,482	47,039	47,300
Wyoming	7,191	7,296	7,201	6,500

-- Data not available. National total includes imputation for missing data.

* Imputed by the Center for Education Statistics (CES).

** Actual fall 1987 count.

Note: All 1987-88 numbers are State estimates unless otherwise indicated by single or double asterisks. Estimates are reported as of December 1987.

Table 3.--Number of public high school graduates, by State: School years 1984-85 to 1987-88

State	Actual 1984-85	Actual 1985-86	Estimated 1986-87	Estimated 1987-88
Total	2,414,020	*2,382,457	*2,428,285	*2,468,646
Alabama	40,002	39,620	**42,463	43,000
Alaska	5,184	5,464	**5,692	5,980
Arizona	27,877	27,533	29,556	31,000
Arkansas	26,342	26,227	**27,224	27,649
California	225,448	229,026	*238,242	*245,099
Colorado	32,255	32,621	34,453	36,000
Connecticut	32,126	33,571	32,400	31,300
Delaware	5,893	5,791	**5,895	6,068
District of Columbia	3,940	3,875	**3,842	4,200
Florida	81,140	83,029	**81,753	88,543
Georgia	58,654	59,082	59,775	60,903
Hawaii	10,092	9,958	**10,491	10,317
Idaho	12,148	12,059	12,243	13,446
Illinois	117,027	114,319	**116,075	116,211
Indiana	63,308	59,817	61,711	64,000
Iowa	36,087	34,279	34,669	34,322
Kansas	25,983	25,587	26,500	26,800
Kentucky	37,999	37,288	**37,189	39,500
Louisiana	39,742	39,965	39,490	*39,798
Maine	13,924	13,006	**13,692	13,450
Maryland	48,299	46,700	46,116	47,200
Massachusetts	63,411	--	*60,280	*59,991
Michigan	105,908	101,042	*101,688	*101,972
Minnesota	53,352	51,988	53,600	54,300
Mississippi	25,315	25,134	**26,201	27,931
Missouri	51,290	49,204	**50,840	51,100
Montana	10,016	9,761	10,166	10,375
Nebraska	18,036	17,845	**18,129	*18,333
Nevada	8,572	8,784	8,791	9,010
New Hampshire	11,052	10,648	10,910	11,300
New Jersey	81,547	78,781	79,250	79,925
New Mexico	15,622	15,468	**15,701	15,606
New York	166,752	162,165	163,300	165,900
North Carolina	67,245	65,865	**66,045	69,478
North Dakota	8,146	7,610	**7,821	8,303
Ohio	122,281	119,561	**121,121	112,613
Oklahoma	34,626	34,452	**35,514	35,329
Oregon	26,870	26,286	**27,165	28,458
Pennsylvania	127,226	122,871	122,750	124,850
Rhode Island	9,201	8,749	**8,776	9,582
South Carolina	34,500	34,500	34,415	33,700
South Dakota	8,206	7,870	**8,074	8,520
Tennessee	43,293	43,263	**43,841	*44,242
Texas	159,234	161,150	**168,430	172,000
Utah	19,890	19,774	**20,930	21,261
Vermont	5,769	5,794	5,943	*6,079
Virginia	60,959	63,113	**65,677	66,700
Washington	45,431	45,805	48,250	49,873
West Virginia	22,262	21,870	**22,401	22,830
Wisconsin	58,851	58,340	56,872	58,600
Wyoming	5,687	5,587	**5,933	5,700

-- Data not available. National total includes imputation for missing data.

* Imputed by the Center for Education Statistics (CES).

** Actual fall 1987 count.

Note: All 1986-87 and 1987-88 numbers are State estimates unless otherwise indicated by single or double asterisks. Estimates are reported as of December 1987.

Table 4.--Current expenditures for public elementary and secondary education, by State: Fiscal years 1985 to 1988

(in thousands of dollars)

State	Actual 1984-85	Actual 1985-86	Estimated 1986-87	Estimated 1987-88
Total	$126,337,491	$136,999,037	*$146,115,490	*155,462,636
Alabama	1,590,856	1,761,154	1,801,771	1,828,000
Alaska	754,967	813,197	**694,254	662,311
Arizona	1,436,844	1,529,724	1,956,955	2,172,447
Arkansas	1,005,347	1,085,943	1,006,802	1,076,271
California	13,477,768	15,040,898	*16,369,599	*17,622,970
Colorado	1,868,058	2,018,579	2,043,472	2,130,310
Connecticut	2,117,798	2,144,094	2,170,000	2,195,000
Delaware	353,191	391,558	418,116	435,680
District of Columbia	387,918	406,910	446,683	455,579
Florida	4,589,068	5,092,668	6,036,811	6,499,993
Georgia	2,629,681	2,979,980	3,082,439	3,474,283
Hawaii	521,692	575,456	**565,855	594,147
Idaho	467,532	492,092	516,697	542,531
Illinois	5,662,354	6,066,390	6,412,445	6,574,211
Indiana	2,696,072	2,851,080	3,051,000	3,294,000
Iowa	1,599,674	1,644,359	1,685,468	1,800,000
Kansas	1,315,469	1,423,225	1,480,150	1,554,162
Kentucky	1,384,722	1,434,962	1,578,458	1,704,735
Louisiana	2,191,478	2,333,748	*2,490,296	*2,626,274
Maine	599,189	688,673	675,416	743,000
Maryland	2,446,771	2,635,871	2,846,711	3,026,736
Massachusetts	3,139,486	3,403,505	*3,556,176	*3,703,477
Michigan	5,735,303	6,184,767	*6,512,108	*6,833,621
Minnesota	2,461,571	2,637,722	2,830,000	3,010,000
Mississippi	1,023,720	1,058,301	1,243,618	1,358,797
Missouri	2,106,539	2,277,576	2,405,734	2,600,000
Montana	538,245	567,901	*598,668	*633,670
Nebraska	870,019	911,983	*969,580	*1,026,037
Nevada	397,254	495,147	504,556	560,920
New Hampshire	473,151	522,604	543,924	571,120
New Jersey	4,697,534	5,556,257	5,964,000	6,402,000
New Mexico	784,442	808,036	*868,350	*932,805
New York	12,681,301	13,686,039	14,685,000	15,816,000
North Carolina	2,674,774	3,026,452	3,526,000	3,949,000
North Dakota	365,341	380,715	381,460	389,089
Ohio	5,504,161	5,856,999	6,249,400	6,686,800
Oklahoma	1,575,467	1,740,981	1,775,801	1,846,833
Oregon	1,560,242	1,662,372	1,633,565	1,715,300
Pennsylvania	6,660,369	6,851,747	7,140,000	7,570,000
Rhode Island	525,824	569,935	597,584	648,826
South Carolina	1,556,552	1,708,603	1,747,900	1,835,300
South Dakota	338,800	360,832	**370,373	390,350
Tennessee	1,836,012	1,990,889	1,953,061	2,159,368
Texas	8,996,476	9,642,812	10,215,892	10,550,000
Utah	813,817	906,484	*988,923	*1,049,505
Vermont	313,026	346,164	380,000	*406,719
Virginia	2,845,540	3,183,707	*3,392,513	*3,593,250
Washington	2,565,957	2,702,652	2,895,500	3,061,800
West Virginia	1,090,514	1,164,882	1,208,556	1,290,738
Wisconsin	2,655,729	2,893,797	3,066,850	3,260,670
Wyoming	453,874	488,616	571,000	599,000

* Imputed by the Center for Education Statistics (CES).

** Actual fall 1987 count.

Note: All 1986-87 and 1987-88 numbers are State estimates unless otherwise indicated by single or double asterisks. Estimates are reported as of December 1987.

Table 5.--Estimated pupil/teacher ratio and per pupil expenditures for public elementary and secondary education by State: School year 1987-88

State	Membership	Number of teachers	Current expenditures (in thousands)	Pupil/ teacher ratio	Per pupil expenditure
Total	*40,200,086	*2,276,367	*$155,462,636	*17.7	*$3,867
Alabama	**730,548	37,446	1,828,000	19.5	2,502
Alaska	**105,547	6,422	662,311	16.4	6,275
Arizona	567,160	30,992	2,172,447	18.3	3,830
Arkansas	**437,036	30,000	1,076,271	14.6	2,463
California	4,469,927	*195,631	*17,622,970	*22.8	*3,943
Colorado	**560,235	31,000	2,130,310	18.1	3,803
Connecticut	464,000	34,700	2,195,000	13.4	4,731
Delaware	**95,659	5,952	435,680	16.1	4,555
District of Columbia	87,710	6,400	455,579	13.7	5,194
Florida	**1,663,579	*95,749	6,499,993	*17.4	3,907
Georgia	1,159,463	59,415	3,474,283	19.5	2,996
Hawaii	**165,910	**7,684	594,147	21.6	3,581
Idaho	212,364	10,572	542,531	20.1	2,555
Illinois	1,798,025	101,749	6,574,211	17.7	3,656
Indiana	965,215	53,550	3,294,000	18.0	3,413
Iowa	478,856	30,932	1,800,000	15.5	3,759
Kansas	421,091	27,389	1,554,162	15.4	3,691
Kentucky	**642,696	**35,280	1,704,735	18.2	2,652
Louisiana	795,323	*43,190	*2,626,274	*18.4	*3,302
Maine	210,000	13,500	743,000	15.6	3,538
Maryland	680,071	39,831	3,026,736	17.1	4,451
Massachusetts	*823,634	*57,688	*3,703,477	*14.3	*4,497
Michigan	1,673,821	*83,220	*6,833,621	*20.1	*4,083
Minnesota	716,305	41,770	3,010,000	17.1	4,202
Mississippi	**505,550	26,541	1,358,797	19.0	2,688
Missouri	**802,060	49,000	2,600,000	16.4	3,242
Montana	153,915	*9,914	*633,670	*15.5	*4,117
Nebraska	268,103	17,656	*1,026,037	15.2	*3,827
Nevada	165,054	8,122	560,920	20.3	3,398
New Hampshire	164,170	10,500	571,120	15.6	3,479
New Jersey	1,105,564	76,815	6,402,000	14.4	5,791
New Mexico	**287,238	14,985	*932,805	19.2	*3,247
New York	2,593,100	175,000	15,816,000	14.8	6,099
North Carolina	1,084,800	58,500	3,949,000	18.5	3,640
North Dakota	**118,474	6,833	389,089	17.3	3,284
Ohio	1,789,549	98,870	6,686,800	18.1	3,737
Oklahoma	598,679	35,229	1,846,833	17.0	3,085
Oregon	**455,895	**24,912	1,715,300	18.3	3,762
Pennsylvania	1,656,380	102,900	7,570,000	16.1	4,570
Rhode Island	**134,064	**8,935	648,826	15.0	4,840
South Carolina	614,923	35,200	1,835,300	17.5	2,985
South Dakota	**126,450	**8,172	390,350	15.5	3,087
Tennessee	819,322	41,300	2,159,368	19.8	2,636
Texas	3,350,661	190,000	10,550,000	17.6	3,149
Utah	418,691	17,500	*1,049,505	23.9	*2,507
Vermont	93,500	*6,532	*406,719	*14.3	*4,350
Virginia	**979,252	58,750	*3,592,250	16.7	*3,668
Washington	775,826	37,751	3,061,800	20.6	3,947
West Virginia	**344,236	22,589	1,290,738	15.2	3,750
Wisconsin	772,000	47,300	3,260,670	16.3	4,224
Wyoming	**98,455	6,500	599,000	15.1	6,084

* Imputed by the Center for Education Statistics (CES).

** Actual fall 1987 count.

Note: All numbers are State estimates unless otherwise indicated by single or double asterisks. Estimates are reported as of December 1987.